

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of forming a loop component for
5 use in a hook and loop fastening system, comprising:
 entangling a plurality of non-interbonded
fibers in a fibrous web of material to form a spunlaced
fabric having a plurality of loop structures that are
configured to engage hooks from a hook component; and
10 bonding between about two percent and about
twenty five percent (2%-25%) of the spunlaced fabric to
reduce fiber fuzzing and pull out caused by hooks
engaging with and disengaging from a loop component.

15 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein entangling
a plurality of non-interbonded fibers comprises directing
one or more jets of high-pressure water at the fibrous
web of material.

20 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein bonding
comprises bonding the spunlaced fabric in a continuous
bond pattern.

25 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein bonding
comprises bonding the spunlaced fabric in multiple,
spaced apart bond patterns.

30 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein bonding the
spunlaced fabric comprises thermally, adhesively, or
ultrasonically bonding the spunlaced fabric.

35 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein bonding the
spunlaced fabric comprises autogenously bonding the
spunlaced fabric.

7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising bonding the spunlaced fabric to a backing layer.

5 8. The method of Claim 7, wherein bonding the spunlaced fabric to a backing layer comprises thermally, adhesively, or ultrasonically bonding the spunlaced fabric to the backing layer.

10 9. The method of Claim 7, wherein bonding comprises autogenously bonding the spunlaced fabric to the backing layer in a pattern.

15 10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the bond pattern comprises a continuous bond pattern.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein the bond pattern comprises a repeat unit of between about 0.2 cm and 12 cm.

20 12. The method of Claim 10, wherein the bond pattern comprises elements having dimensions between about 0.02 mm and 4 mm.

25 13. The method of Claim 9, wherein the spunlaced fabric is bonded to between about two percent and about twenty-five percent (2%-25%) of a surface area of the backing layer.

30 14. The method of Claim 7, further comprising providing the backing layer with decorative indicia and/or coloring.

35 15. The method of Claim 1, further comprising embossing the spunlaced fabric with a decorative pattern.

16. A method of forming a loop component for use in a hook and loop fastening system, comprising:

entangling a plurality of non-interbonded fibers in a fibrous web of material to form a spunlaced fabric having a plurality of loop structures that are configured to engage hooks from a hook component; and

stretching the spunlaced fabric in a cross web direction between about five percent and one-hundred twenty five percent (5%-125%) of the unstretched width of the spunlaced fabric.

17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising bonding between about two percent and about twenty five percent (2%-25%) of the spunlaced fabric to reduce fiber fuzzing and pull out caused by hooks engaging with and disengaging from a loop component.

18. The method of Claim 16, wherein entangling a plurality of non-interbonded fibers comprises directing one or more jets of high-pressure water at the fibrous web of material.

19. The method of Claim 17, wherein bonding comprises bonding the spunlaced fabric in a continuous bond pattern.

20. The method of Claim 17, wherein bonding comprises bonding the spunlaced fabric in multiple, spaced apart bond patterns.

21. The method of Claim 17, wherein bonding the spunlaced fabric comprises thermally, adhesively, or ultrasonically bonding the spunlaced fabric.

22. The method of Claim 17, wherein bonding the spunlaced fabric comprises autogenously bonding the spunlaced fabric.

5 23. The method of Claim 16, further comprising bonding the spunlaced fabric to a backing layer.

 24. The method of Claim 23, wherein bonding the spunlaced fabric to a backing layer comprises
10 thermally, adhesively, or ultrasonically bonding the spunlaced fabric to the backing layer.

 25. The method of Claim 23, wherein bonding comprises autogenously bonding the spunlaced fabric to
15 the backing layer in a pattern.

 26. The method of Claim 25, wherein the bond pattern comprises a continuous bond pattern.

20 27. The method of Claim 25, wherein the bond pattern comprises a repeat unit of between about 0.2 cm and 12 cm.

 28. The method of Claim 26, wherein the bond
25 pattern comprises elements having dimensions between about 0.02 mm and 4 mm.

 29. The method of Claim 23, wherein the
spunlaced fabric is bonded to between about two percent
30 and about twenty-five percent (2%-25%) of a surface area of the backing layer.

 30. The method of Claim 23, further comprising
providing the backing layer with decorative indicia
35 and/or coloring.

31. The method of Claim 16, further comprising embossing the spunlaced fabric with a decorative pattern.

5 32. A loop component for use in a hook and loop fastening system, comprising a spunlaced fabric having a plurality of loop structures formed by entangling a plurality of non-interbonded fibers in a fibrous web of material, wherein between about two percent and about twenty-five percent (2%-25%) of a
10 surface area of the spunlaced fabric is bonded to reduce fiber fuzzing and pull out caused by hooks engaging with and disengaging from the loop component.

15 33. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the spunlaced fabric is stretched in a cross web direction between about five percent and about one hundred twenty-five percent (5%-125%) of an unstretched width of the spunlaced fabric.

20 34. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric are configured to engage hooks from a hook component having a hook density between about 30 and 400 hooks per square centimeter.

25 35. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric are configured to engage hooks from a hook component having individual hook lengths of 0.8 cm or less.

30 36. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric have an average peel strength of between about 50 grams and 750 grams when tested using ASTM D5170-98 test method.

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37. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric have an average maximum load peel strength of between about 700 grams and 10,000 grams when tested using ASTM D5170-98 test method.

38. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric have an average peak shear strength of between about 200 and 7,000 grams when tested using ASTM D5169-91 test method.

39. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric maintain a maximum average peel strength after 20 test cycles between about 50 and 550 grams when tested using ASTM D5170-98 test method.

40. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the fibers of the spunlaced fabric have a denier of between about 0.5 and 19.

41. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the fibers of the spunlaced fabric have a density of between about 0.1 and 1.2 grams per cubic centimeter.

42. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the spunlaced fabric has a thickness of between about 10 and 95 mils.

43. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the non-interbonded fibers of the fibrous web comprise fibers selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyester, acetate, nylon, viscose and acrylic, or blends or bicomponents thereof.

44. The loop component of Claim 32, wherein the spunlaced fabric is embossed with a decorative pattern.

5 45. The loop component of Claim 32, further comprising a backing layer bonded to the spunlaced fabric.

10 46. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer comprises material selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyester, acetate, nylon, urethane, or blends thereof, polymer film, nonwoven fabric, woven fabric, and knit scrim.

15 47. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer comprises polyolefin film having a density less than about 0.91 grams per cubic centimeter.

20 48. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer is bonded to the spunlaced fabric either thermally, adhesively, autogenously, or ultrasonically.

25 49. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer comprises material impervious to water.

30 50. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer has a thickness between about 0.4 and 40 mils.

35 51. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the backing layer has a density of between about 0.65 and 1.4 grams per cubic centimeter.

52. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the spunlaced fabric and backing layer has a thickness between about 8 mils and 400 mils.

5 53. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the spunlaced fabric and backing layer has a basis weight greater than or equal to 19 grams per square meter.

10 54. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the spunlaced fabric and backing layer has a Frazier air permeability of less than about 25 cubic feet per minute.

15 55. The loop component of Claim 45, wherein the spunlaced fabric and backing layer has a machine direction (MD) grab tensile strength of between about 10 pounds and 40 pounds.

56. A hook and loop fastening system, comprising:

20 a hook component having a hook density between about 30 and 400 hooks per square centimeter; and

a loop component, comprising a spunlaced fabric having a plurality of loop structures formed by entangling a plurality of non-interbonded fibers in a fibrous web of material, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced fabric are configured to engage hooks from the hook component, and wherein between about two percent and about twenty-five percent (2%-25%) of a surface area of the spunlaced fabric is bonded to reduce fiber fuzzing and pull out caused by hooks from the hook component engaging with and disengaging from the loop component.

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57. The hook and loop fastening system of Claim 56, wherein the loop component spunlaced fabric is stretched in a cross web direction between about five

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percent and about one hundred twenty-five percent (5%-125%) of an unstretched width of the spunlaced fabric.

5 58. The hook and loop fastening system of
Claim 56, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced
fabric are configured to engage hooks having individual
hook lengths of 0.8 cm or less.

10 59. The hook and loop fastening system of
Claim 56, wherein the loop structures of the spunlaced
fabric have an average peel strength of between about 50
grams and 550 grams when tested using ASTM D5170-98 test
method.